Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 3



Meeting Date: June 16, 2014

Meeting Location: Juvenile Justice Center

1000 South Michigan South Bend, IN

Council Members Present: James Pippin, Regional Manager DCS; Michael Carroll, Director Marshall County DCS; Linda Cioch, Director St. Joseph County; Teresa Zornig, Division Manager St. Joseph County DCS; William Horton, St. Joseph County DCS; Pam Whisman, Marshall County DCS; Amanda Herendeen, Kosciusko County DCS.

Council Members Absent: Judge Duane Huffer, Kosciusko County Superior Court; Judge Curtis Palmer; Joe Wine, Foster Parent; Magistrate Deborah Domine; Don Phillips, Bashor; James Pheilbush; Scott Filley; Erin Shidler, Director Kosciusko DCS; Tony Sommer, Director Elkhart County DCS.

Others In Attendance: Rachel Tobin-Smith, SCAN/Community Partners; Joni Tusing, Regional Financial Manager; Janet Rathberger, DCS; Libby Martin, LSSIN; Debbie Branfield, Crossroad; Becky Loth, Lifeline; Betsy Kuhn, The Villages; James Clifton, The Villages; Hani Lugo, DCS; Carlye Gibson, DCS, Adrienne Batteast, Lifeline; Melissa McWilliams, Lifeline; Candy Yoder, CAPS; Tess Ottenweller, Bowen Center.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m. by James Pippin.

- 1. Welcome/Introductions of Members and Guests.
- 2. Approval of Minutes. Minutes of 5/19/2014 reviewed. Michael Carroll motioned approval of the minutes as written. William Horton seconded. All in favor. 0 Opposed. Motion carried.
- 3. Community Partners Update. Rachel Tobin-Smith reported that they do not have statistics. Data was corrupted but can talk about numbers. Community Partners should be at 91.66% currently at 91.55%. May actual \$161,050 with a remaining balance of \$153,542 for June which they are monitoring carefully. Local Prevention Dollars: they have moved a little money around due to under spending. They have provider bills to reach goal. Child abuse statistics look good overall at the end of May. 100% abuse free, 98.2% neglect free, overall 98.2% that have received services have remained abuse/neglect free. Providers and staff are doing a great job at keeping families out of the system. Doing a great job in this Region!
- 4. Regional Budget Update. Joni Tusing, Regional Financial Manager, Family & Children fund for May 3.2 million, out of that Child Welfare spent 1.9 million, and Probation 1.2 million. YTD comparison reviewed. FY2013 YTD 25.7 million, FY2014 YTD 39.9 million, costs have gone up but Region 3 is still within budget.
- 5. County Updates.

Marshall County - Michael Carroll, Director, busy with a lot of assessments coming in, DV with drug abuse which are difficult to assess because parents are not on the same page. County is at full staff. Interviewing a BSW student from IUSB for a one year internship.

Kosciusko County – Amanda Herendeen, Supervisor, reported Erin is on vacation. 10th FCM finished cohort and has relieved some of the pressure on staff.

St Joseph County – Linda Cioch, Director, RoofSit this week at the Martin's in Heritage Square. Reported changes in County with two adoption specialists and new teams. Assessment and Permanency are teaming up. 12 teams, pairing the 6 Assessment teams with the 6 Permanency teams in an effort to move cases swiftly towards permanency.

Elkhart County – Jamie Pippin reported for Elkhart County, Two resignations which have been approved by strategic hiring to fill.

7. Other Business.

QSR – Carlye Gibson & Jamie Pippin presented the Quality Service Review held in May. 24 cases were reviewed throughout the Region. The QSR was started in 2007, this is the 4th round. QSR is based on best practices, the TEAPI model, and outcomes. Cases were pulled randomly. 18 CHINS cases, 1 IA, and 4 assessments were reviewed. Majority of cases were in the age range of 0-12 mos. 181 interviews, with an average of 7 interviews per case. No residential cases were pulled this round. New contract required a service provider be there as a 3rd party shadow. Adrienne Batteast, Lifeline, shadowed for the region this round. Scoring ranged from 1-6; 6=Optimal 1=Adverse Performance, anything below 70% is considered concerted action needed.

Indicators: Safety at 100%, Behavioral risk 80% (only 15 cases are applicable). Child Status: Stability 71%, Permanency 58%. Permanency Indicator asked is this the home that the child will remain in (24 cases applicable). Child Status: Well-Being Appropriate Living Arrangement 100%, Physical Health 100%, Emotional Status 80% (15 cases applicable). Learning & Development 83%, Pathways to Independence 100%. We are doing a really good job taking care of our children once they get into the system.

Parent Stress Factors (Top 5): 46% Domestic Violence, 46% Drug Addiction/Substance Abuse, 46% Lack of Parenting Skills, 46% Legal Problems, 42% Heavy Child Care Responsibility. Former Ward: 21% Mothers, 8% Fathers.

Parent/Caregiver Status: Parenting Capacities (Biological Parents) 65% Informal Supports 52%. Overall (where parents are at now) over half our biological parents do have the skills needed to parent their children. We are getting out the services and they are starting to work.

Parent/Caregiver Status: Congregate Care & Current Caregivers: Congregate Care Capacity 100%, Current Care Capacity 100%, and Informal Supports 92% (12 applicable). Overall we are placing the children in good placements, the children are being taken care of.

System Performance: Mother 70%, Father 35%, and Child 44% (9 children applicable). In the role and voice indicator we had a lot of younger children who would not have a voice. Fathers feel they do not have a voice, they do not feel like they are being listened to. Teaming: Team Formation 46%, Team Functioning 40%. We are not at 50 % yet but we are working on and have improved from last year. Assessing: Cultural Recognition 88%, Assessing & Understanding the Child 79%, Assessing & Understanding Family 65%. Planning: Long-term view 67%, Child & Family Planning Process 54%, and Transition & Life Adjustments 63%. We still have to make sure transition is planned for. Intervening: Adequacy 71%, Resource Availability 96%, Tracking & Adjusting 58%. Maintaining Family Relationships; Mothers 60%, Fathers 29%, Siblings 100%, and Extended Family 67%. Overall System Performance 63%. A lot of the time it is in the teaming piece of the review, if teaming does not go well the whole scoring does not.

Jamie Pippen commented that the QSR should be used as a compass for the direction that we need to head in. A Continuous Quality Improvement Plan (CQI) is being developed by Jamie. The Biennial Plan addressed the need for a Father Engagement Provider, tying that plan together with the QSR Jamie has two weeks to come up with the CQI Plan for the Region. The CQI Plan is a working plan presented by RMs every 6 months.

Q&A – We are excellent at knowing the system; do we know are families that well? Are we looking at what is wrong with the family? Are we stereotyping? Talk with the family; get a better understanding of what is going on with the family and what the family needs. Erin Shidler, practice guru, is looking at team functioning and kicking around how to improve the practice.

RSC Meeting Dates – Tabled from last month Jamie asked for any comments or discussion on moving to quarterly meetings for the RSC. We can always call an emergency meeting if necessary. No comments.

Linda Cioch, proxy, motioned to have the Regional Service Council Meetings Quarterly. Amanda Herendeen seconded. All in favor. 0 Opposed. Motioned carried.

The next RSC meeting will be August 25th in Elkhart.

Teresa Zornig motioned adjournment. Linda Cioch seconded. Meeting adjourned 11:06a.m.